

**Help teens
drive safer,
live longer.**

Dear parents of teen drivers:

The year 2000 marks the beginning of an exciting new century that is sure to be filled with many advances. It also marks the beginning of a new age for Wisconsin drivers, as the Graduated Driver License program becomes fully effective this fall. For us, it is the culmination of more than two years of effort that began shortly after our son, Kris was killed on November 1, 1997. Chris was a straight A student, class leader, and athlete who dreamed of going to UCLA. His mistake was putting his life in the hands of someone who was not prepared for that responsibility, he never got the opportunity to make another. He was six-weeks shy of his 16th birthday.

For all the parents and students who are just beginning this driving education process, the statistics are staggering. There's nothing more dangerous to the health and well being of young person than getting into a car. Across the country we lose 17 young people, ages 15-20, every single day. In Wisconsin one teen dies on our roads every three days. More young people died on our nation's highways in the decade of the '90s than the total casualties of the Vietnam War. With the passage of this law, Wisconsin joins a growing number of states who are taking steps to reduce those numbers by making our young people better, more experience drivers.

The components of this new law were carefully crafted based upon programs already in place in several other states. These programs have proven to significantly reduced teen crashes and fatalities. We think these changes will make it more likely that you and your loved ones will be alive to see your dreams become reality. We wish you the best of luck as you begin this driving process.

Sincerely,
Dave and Kathy Greening